

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
an image bearing member that is rotatable;  
a charging member that is contactably provided  
5 to the image bearing member and charges the image  
bearing member, the charging member being capable of  
being applied with a first voltage containing an AC  
component and a DC component and a second voltage  
without containing an AC component and with  
10 containing a DC component, the first voltage being  
capable of being applied to the charging member at  
the time when the charging member charges a region to  
be an image forming region of the image bearing  
member; and  
15 control means that makes selection on whether a  
mode, in which a rotation time of the image bearing  
member is prolonged and in which the second voltage  
is applied to the charging member in the prolonged  
rotation time, is performed or not.

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2. An image forming apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein, in the mode, a region of the image  
bearing member where the charging member contacts the  
image bearing member is a region to be a non-image  
25 forming region.

3. An image forming apparatus according to

claim 2, wherein the region to be a non-image forming region is formed after the formation of the region to be an image forming region.

5           4. An image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the region to be a non-image forming region is formed between the regions each of which becomes an image forming region.

10           5. An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein selection is made as to whether the mode is performed or not in accordance with a ratio of an image formed on the image bearing member.

15           6. An image forming apparatus according to claim 5, wherein performing the mode is selected when the ratio of the image has a predetermined value or more.

20           7. An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising detecting means for detecting an environmental condition, wherein selection is made as to whether the mode is performed or not based on detection results of the detecting  
25 means.

8. An image forming apparatus according to

claim 1, wherein selection can be made by a user as said image forming apparatus allows a user to determines whether the mode is performed or not.

5           9. An image forming apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 8, further comprising:

image forming means for forming an image of a developer on the image bearing member; and

10           cleaning means for cleaning the developer that remains on the image bearing member.

10. An image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

15           a shape factor SF-1 of the developer is 100 to 160; and

a shape factor SF-2 of the developer is 100 to 140.

20           11. An image forming apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

a first transfer means for transferring the image of the developer formed on the image bearing member onto an intermediate transferring body;

25           a second transfer means for transferring the image of the developer on the intermediate transferring body onto a member to be transferred; and

developer charging means for, in order to transfer a residual developer that remains on the intermediate transferring body, charging the residual developer with an opposite polarity to a normal  
5 polarity of the developer.

12. An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein:

a charging position of the developer charging  
10 means is provided on both an upstream side of a first transfer position of the first transfer means and a downstream side of a second transfer position of the second transfer means in a moving direction of the intermediate transferring body; and

15 the prolonged rotation time in the mode corresponds to equal to or larger than a sum of a time during which the intermediate transferring body moves from the second transfer position to the first transfer position and a time during which the image  
20 bearing member moves from the first transfer position to a cleaning position of the cleaning means.